

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 KARACH 00238 01 OF 02 311906Z

51 46

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 /119 W

----- 024042

R 301125Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7809

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

AMEMBASSY DACCA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 KARACHI 0238

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PK

SUBJECT: BALUCHISTAN: PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY SCHEDULED TO
CONVENE FEBRUARY 2 -- THEN WHAT??

REF: (A) KARACHI 2072 OCT 73

(B) KARACHI 0011

(C) KARACHI 2654 DEC 73

SUMMARY: JANUARY 25 GOVERNOR OF BALUCHISTAN SUMMONED MEETING
OF PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 2. IN ANTICIPATION OF
ASSEMBLY SESSION, POLITICAL MANEUVERINGS BY PROVINCE'S IN'S
AND OUT'S HAVE ESCALATED. POSSIBLE ALSO THAT BHUTTO
REGIME HAS RECENTLY CONTACTED DETAINED BALUCH NAP LEADERS
IN ATTEMPT TO MAKE DEAL PRIOR TO SESSION, WHICH MIGHT BE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KARACH 00238 01 OF 02 311906Z

SOURCE OF EMBARRASSMENT IF REGIME'S PROVINCIAL HANDMAIDENS
UNABLE DEMONSTRATE THEY COMMAND MAJORITY. UNCERTAIN WHETHER

THIS CURRENT JOCKEYING WILL PRODUCE DEAL, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT SIMILAR UNREALIZED EXPECTATIONS ON EARLIER OCCASIONS. HOWEVER, TIME IS APPROACHING, IF IT HASN'T YET ARRIVED, WHEN FOR APPEARANCES' SAKE IF NOTHING ELSE TIDYING UP IN BALUCHISTAN MAY HAVE SOME GREATER ATTRACTION FOR BHUTTO REGIME THAN PREVIOUSLY. END SUMMARY

1. CONVENING OF PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY: GOVERNOR AHMED YAR KHAN CALLED ASSEMBLY SESSION FOLLOWING REQUEST FOR SESSION BY PRO-NAP SPEAKER BAROZAI, WHO CITED ARTICLES 54 AND 127 OF CONSTITUTION. READ TOGETHER, THESE CLAUSES STIPULATE THAT NO MORE THAN 120 DAYS SHALL INTERVENE BETWEEN LAST SITTING OF ASSEMBLY IN ONE SESSION AND DATE APPOINTED FOR ITS FIRST SITTING IN NEXT SESSION. SINCE PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED AFTER ABBREVIATED SESSION OCTOBER 1 (REFTEL A), ALLOWABLE 120 DAYS HAVE JUST ABOUT EXPIRED. FACT THAT INITIATIVE FOR SESSION CAME FROM NAP SUPPORTER SUGGESTS THAT, EVEN THOUGH SOME NAP MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY LIKELY TO BE UNAVAILABLE BECAUSE OF DETENTION OR CONVICTIONS, PARTY HAS REASON TO BELIEVE THAT PRESENT PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION WILL BE UNABLE TO DEMONSTRATE IT COMMANDS A MAJORITY. REINFORCING THIS IMPRESSION WAS JANUARY 28 STATEMENT OF ACTING PROVINCIAL NAP PRESIDENT THAT NAP MEMBERS WOULD ATTEND FEBRUARY 2 SESSION EVEN THOUGH PARTY EARLIER HAD DECIDED TO BOYCOTT BY-ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR CURRENTLY VACANT SEATS OF MNA KHAIR BUX MARRI AND DECEASED MPA ACHAKZAI. ALTOGETHER, IT DOUBTFUL THAT CONSIDERATIONS OF "CONSTITUTIONAL PURITY" WOULD HAVE MOTIVATED NAP TO PRESS FOR SESSION NOW, UNLESS IT WAS FAIRLY CERTAIN SESSION WOULD SUPPORT ITS CLAIMS IT STILL HOLDS A MAJORITY.

2. THE IN'S: ADVENT OF KHAN OF KALAT AS GOVERNOR (REFTEL B) HAS NOT APPARENTLY STRENGTHENED POSITION OF PRESENT PROVINCIAL MINISTRY. GOVERNOR HAS BEEN CAREFUL IN HIS PUBLIC STATEMENTS TO AVOID UNNECESSARILY ANTAGONIZING EITHER OF CONTENDING PROVINCIAL FACTIONS OR CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. NOTHING MORE HAS BEEN HEARD FROM HIM ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS WHICH HE VOICED FOLLOWING HIS SWEARING-IN. HE HAS PUBLICLY COMMITTED HIMSELF TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 KARACH 00238 01 OF 02 311906Z

PROVINCE'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (MOTHERHOOD) AND REPORTEDLY IS CURRENTLY ENGROSSED IN EFFORTS TO BRING INTO BEING A BALUCHISTAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY. CHUF MINISTER JAM SSHIB OF LAS BELA HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO BUILD PUBLIC IMAGE OF BEING IN CHARGE WITHOUT MUCH SUCCESS. CHIEF MINISTER HAS ORDERED REVIEW OF GOVERNOR'S BUGTI'S DISMISSAL OF 16 PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS LATE IN HIS TENURE OF OFFICE AND ANNOUNCED THAT LONG PENDING CASES AGAINST MENGAL AND BIZENJO SOON TO BE INSTITUTED. LATTER ANNOUNCEMENT LIKELY A REGIME-SANCTIONED PLOY TO BRING SUBTLE PRESSURE ON DETAINED NAP

LEADERS TO BE MORE ACCOMMODATING. HOWEVER, NEITHER GOVERNOR, NOR CHIEF MINISTER APPEARS TO HAVE CAPTURED PUBLIC IMAGINATION, OR TO BE WIELDING POWER FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN TO RETAIN THEIR POSTS. GOVERNOR MIGHT NOT BE DISAPPOINTED TO SEE PRESENT PROVINCIAL MINISTRY GO SINCE HE PROFESSES PRIVATELY TO BE SYMPATHETIC WITH BALUCH ASPIRATIONS WHICH IS ALSO PROVINCIAL NAP'S PUBLIC POSTURE.

3. TENSION AMONG THE IN'S: RANKS OF THOSE WHO OPPOSE NAP ARE SUBJECT TO SOME STRESS AND STRAIN AND SERIOUS DISARRAY LIES NOT FAR BELOW SURFACE. MPA SAIFULLAH PARACHA (PPP) AND GOP MINISTER RAISANI ARE BOTH LESS THAN PLEASED WITH JAM SAHIB'S PERFORMANCE AS CHIEF MINISTER. PARACHA'S TIES WITH HIS ALLIES HAVE WEAKENED SINCE HE NOT GIVEN MINISTERIAL POSITION FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION TO CAUSE AND LOYALTY. AT SAME TIME, RAISANI'S TENURE AS GOP MINISTER MUST END FEBRUARY 13 SINCE HE HOLDS NO CENTRAL ASSEMBLY OR SENATE SEAT JUSTIFYING CARRYING HIM ON AS A MINISTER. RAISANI RUMORED IN RUNNING AS PROSPECTIVE CHIEF MINISTER WITH JAM SAHIB AS HIS DEPUTY, BUT THIS ASSUMES STATUS QUO IS TO BE MAINTAINED AND NO POLITICAL DEAL WITH NAP MADE. THUS, IN GENERAL, CROWN OF OFFICE SITS UNEASILY ON HEADS OF PRESENT INCUMBENTS AND DURING THEIR TENURE OF OFFICE UNITY AMONG ANTI-NAP GROUP APPEARS TO HAVE WEAKENED RATHER THAN STRENGTHENED.

4. THE OUT'S: AFTER DEFECTION OF THEIR TWO ERSTWHILE JUI ALLIES TO ACCEPT MINISTERSHIPS, PRO-NAP GROUP APPEARS TO HAVE HELD TOGETHER QUITE WELL. IT HAS SUFFERED NO MAJOR DEFECTIONS ALTHOUGH SOME OF ITS SUPPORTERS HAVE BEEN NEUTRALIZED BY DETENTION OR UNSEATED BY LEGAL PROCEDURE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 KARACH 00238 01 OF 02 311906Z

DURES (CONVICTION OF MPA GUL KHAN NASIR, DECLARATION TIGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KARACH 00238 02 OF 02 301345Z

46
ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 /119 W

----- 001974

R 301125Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7810

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

AMEMBASSY DACCA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 KARACHI 0238

OF MPA ABDUR REHMAN AS PROCLFTMED OFFENDER SUBJECT TO ARREST, AND ARREST OF MPA DOST MOHAMMAD KHAN). RESILIENT RESISTANCE OF THIS GROUP APPEARS TO BE CONFIRMED BY SERIES OF CURRENT LEGAL ACTIBOS AND ARRESTS AIMED AT REDUCING GROUP'S STRENGTH IN ASSEMBLY. EARLIER A SIMILAR COURSE OF ACTION HAD BEEN CONTEMPLATED AND SET IN MOTION ONLY TO BE ABANDONED DURING GOVERNOR BUGTI'S REGIME BECAUSE OF ITS TRANSPARENCY AND POSSIBLE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE EFFECTS. MEANWHILE REPORTS THAT GOP MINISTER PIRZADA HAS MET WITH MENGAL, MARRI AND BIZENJO IN RAWALPINDI ARE SPARKING SPECULATION THAT SCHEDULED JANUARY 31 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEBATE ON BALUCHISTAN MAY BE SCRUBBED IF THESE TALKS UNSUCCESSFUL. POSSIBLY ENCOURALPNG REGIME TO ATTEMPT SOME SORT OF COSMETIC TO COVER BALUCHISTAN IMPASSE ARE REPORTED DIFFICULTIESSTITHIN PUNJAB PPP (ISLAMABAD 0940). THUS FAR, IT APPEARS THAT BALUCHISTAN PRO-NAIWGROUP HAS NOT LOST ITS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 KARACH 00238 02 OF 02 301345Z

COHESIVENESS SINCE THEIR DISMISSAL AS PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT AND IN FACT MAY HAVE GAINED PUBLIC SUPPORT AND SYMPATHY.

5. THE IMPASSE: SINCE BHUTTO REGIME HAS BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL WITH ITS COMBINED TACTICS OF CAJOLERY AND APPLICATION OF KRCE, REACHING AN ACCOMMODATION WITH NAP MAY DEPEND ON REGIME'S DESIRE TO GIVE A LITTLE IN RETURN FOR TIDYING UP BALUCHISTAN SITUATION FOR APPEARANCE'S SAKE. WHILE BIZENJO MAY BE WILLING, AS USUAL, TO TREAT WITH REGIME GTYLAHORE 0111 NOTAL), MENGAL AND MARRI COUTA BE LOOKING

FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD TO TIME WHEN BHUTTO MIGHT WANT BALUCHISTAN NEED QUIET IF HE HAS PROBLEMS IN PUNJAB. SUCH A VIEW COULD ENCOURAGE THEM TO HOLD FAST TO THEIR DEMANDS FOR THEIR RELEASE, RELEASE OF OTHER POLITICAL PRISONERS, WITHDRAWAL OF THE ARMY FROM TRIBAL AREAS OF PROVINCE AND PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE IN PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY TO DETERMINE MAJORITY BEFORE THEY STRIKE A DEAL. CURRENT FOREIGN VISIT OF SALI KHAN LEAVES TACTICAL NEGOTIATING STAGE SOMEWHAT AS IT WAS AT TIME OF OCTOBER 1972 CONSTITUTIONAL ACCORD WITH WALI OUT OF ANY

ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS AND BALUCH NAP FREE TO STRIKE WHATEVER DEAL THEY FEEL THEY CAN LIVE.

6. SQUEEZE PLAYS IN TRAIN: SUGGESTIONS THAT PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS BE HELD UNDER NEW CONSTITUTION WHICH WOULD DOUBLE SIZE OF PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY, UNDERTAKING TO PROCEED WITH CUES AGAINST MENGAL AND BIZENJO, RENEWED CAMPAIGN OF ARRESTS NAP MPA DOST MOHAMMAD QGHAN JANUARY 26 AND FIVE LESSER BAZPCH NAP FIGURES SAME WEEK ALL APPEAR ACTIONS DESIGNED TO SOFTEN UP NAP. ON THE OTHER SIDE, WITH PRINCIPAL NAP FORURES IN DETENTION NOW PUBLIC CITIZEN SARDAR MOHAMMAD AKBAR KHAN BUGTI APPEARS TO HAVE SHIFTED TO PRO-NAP STANCE. IN MID-JANUARY HE RECOMMENDED TO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT THAT GOVERNMENT RESTORE NAP AND PREDICTED THAT KHAN OF KALAT COULD NOT BE SUCCESSFUL AS GOVERNOR IN PRESENT SITUATION. FOLLOWING RENEWAL OF ARREST CAMPAIGN, RUMORS FLOATED THAT TWO MPA'S, WHO ARE BUGTI'S MEN -- HIS SON-IN-LAW MPA CHAKAR KHAN DOMBKI AND MPA ANWAR JAN KETHRAN --, WOULD SIT WITH OPPOSITION AT UPCOMING ASSEMBLY SESSION. THIS SHIFT, IF ACTUALLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 KARACH 00238 02 OF 02 301345Z

TAKES PLACE, IN EFFECT WOULD COUNTERBALANCE RECENT EFFORTS TO ENHANCE PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION'S NUMERICAL POSITION IN THE ASSEMBLY.

7. PROSPECTIVE STRENGTHS AT ASSEMBLY SESSION: WITH ACHAKZAI'S DEATH AND HIS SEAT YET TO BE FILLED (BY-ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 30) AND FIVE MPA'S NEUTRALIZED AND UNLIKELY TO ATTEND SESSION (MENGAL AND MARRI DETAINED, GUL KHAN NASIR UNSEATED BY NEW SENTENCE TO 4 YEARS R. I. AFTER EARLIER VACATION OF HIS SEAT FOR CONVICTION DECLARED VOID BY REVIEWING OFFICER, DOST MOHAMMAD KHAN OF TURBAT IN JAIL AND ABDUR REHMAN A PROCLAIMED OFFENDER) 15 MPA'S COULD ATTEND SESSION. HEAD COUNT FROM AFAR SUGGESTS THAT, WITH SPEAKER IN CHAIR AND DOMBKI AND KETHRAN SITTING UP WITH OPPOSITION, FOURTEEN MEMBERS SPLIT SEVEN TO SEVEN. SINCE BALUCHISTAN ASSEMBLY HAS YET TO PASS A SET OF RULES OF ORDER, PARLIAMENTARY FUN AND GAMES

COULD WELL ENSUE IN SUCH A SITUATION. WHETHER STAND-OFF
WOULD RESULT IN DISSOLUTION OF ASSEMBLY AND INTRODUCTION
OF GOVERNOR'S RULE IS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT. THIS COURSE
OF ACTION WOULD CREATE SITUATION IN WHICH PROVINCE-WIDE
ELECTIONS WOULD BE REQUIRED PRIOR TO REACTIVATING REPRESENTATIVE
RULE IN PROVINCE. POTENTIAL DISADVANTAGE OF THIS
DEVELOPMENT COULD BE THAT ELECTIONS IN BALUCHISTAN COULD
TRIGGER DEMAND FOR ELECTIONS IN OTHER PROVINCES AND
ALTHOUGH SPECULATION BEING HEARD REGIME AGAIN CONTEMPLATING
GENERAL ELECTIONS THERE IS NO MORE HARD EVIDENCE OR
LOGIC TO SUPPORT SUCH REGIME INTENTIONS THAN THERE WAS
LAST SPRING WHEN SIMILAR SPECULATION DIED A BORING.

8. COMMENT: IT CANNOT BE RULED OUT THAT SOME STRATEGY
CAN BE DEvised TO AVOID HOLDING ASSEMBLY SESSIONS
EEEEEEE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL LEADERS, MINORITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KARACH00238
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KARACHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974016/aaaaaffy.tel
Line Count: 287
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) KARACHI 2072 OCT 73
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 20 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26 JUN 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BALUCHISTAN: PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY SCHEDULED TO CONVENE FEBRUARY 2 -- THEN WHAT??
TAGS: PINT, PK, (KHAN, MIR HAJI SIR AHMED YAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005